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Tarble Arts Center Newsletter

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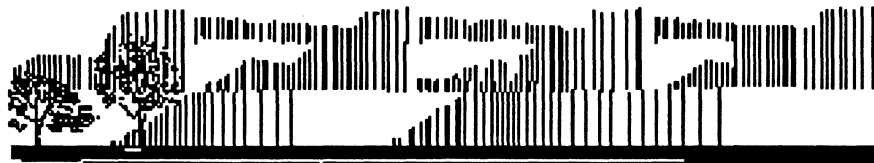
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Tarble Arts Center

Newsletter

-- May 1993



EXHIBITIONS

WILLIAM CONGER: RECENT PAINTINGS

-- *through May 2, Brainard Gallery*

Conger is the Chair of the Department of Art Theory and Practice at Northwestern University. He is represented by works in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago), Illinois State Museum, AT&T Corporation, IBM Corporation, and many other public and corporate collections. This exhibition is presented in cooperation with the Roy Boyd Gallery, Chicago.

ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EXHIBITION

-- *May 1 - 23, Main Galleries*

This annual exhibition provides an opportunity for area art teachers to showcase their programs, enjoying high visibility in the community. Organized in cooperation with the Art teachers of Community Unit #1 Schools, this exhibition features two- and three-dimensional art by area students, grades K-12, along with works created by children from other countries. Area schools represented in the show include: Carl Sandburg, Lerna, Mark Twain, Lincoln, and Ashmore Elementaries, Jefferson School, Charleston Junior High School, Charleston High School, Charleston; Sullivan Middle School, and Sullivan High School; Windsor High School; Stewardson-Strasburg Community Unit District 5A Schools; Crestwood School, Paris; Kansas Schools; Mattoon Junior High School; Chrisman Community Unit School District #6; Arthur Junior and Senior High School; Arcola Grade School; Cumberland Elementary and Junior High; and Main Street School, Moulton Junior High, and Shelbyville, High School, Shelbyville.

The international component of the 1993 exhibition is comprised of Indian children's art from the Nehru Children's Museum in Calcutta, India. Mr. Jugal Srimal, Director of the museum, curated this selection of children's

works specifically for the Tarble Arts Center. Mr. Srimal was located through the INSEA Membership Directory. INSEA is the International Non-Government, World Organization for Education through Art, to which Tarble belongs. (A closing reception and awards presentation ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 16.)

SHAPE: SELECTIONS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

-- May 5 - June 6, *Brainard Gallery*

Curated as a teaching exhibition for the *Fifth Grade Enrichment* program, the two and three-dimensional works in this exhibition involve shape as a significant component. The objective of the enrichment experience is to develop an understanding of shape in art, and its use in developing visual communication that the sensitive viewer can follow and appreciate.

FOLK ARTS FROM THE COLLECTION

-- May 29 - August 15, *Main Galleries*

This annual summer exhibition, drawn from the Tarble's rich collection of contemporary folk arts, presents a cross-section of media, traditions, and styles. New this year are some wonderful examples of bobbin lace made by Christiane Holtkamp of Centralia, purchased for the collection through a special contribution by Mary and Glenn Lefler; canes collected by Burl Ives, donated to Eastern by him and his wife Dorothy; and a selection of works on loan from Mattoon folk artist Cora Meek, who turns 104 years old this fall. Most of the works in the collection are from eastcentral and southeastern Illinois, and reflect the fact that the settlers of this area were both subsistence farmers who emigrated from the South and commercial farmers who emigrated from the North, as the Lincoln and Sargent farms at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site demonstrate. Representing objects coming from the upland Southern tradition are woven rag rugs, bi-lobed baskets, and bent-stick furniture. From the Yankee tradition are hooked rugs, baskets done on crossed-hoop frames, fish decoys, and apple-head dolls. Also in keeping with Lincoln Log Cabin is a scale replica of a log tavern like those licensed by the state along main thoroughfares as rest stops for travelers in the 1830s.

Eastcentral and southeastern Illinois is not noted for its ethnic diversity; most of the population was originally of English and German descent, as is demonstrated in the Folk Arts Collection. Some of the carvings by the late Ferd Metten show his German Catholic roots, as demonstrated by his religious works and the "Dutch" wooden shoes found on the shelves in his *General Store*. The Amish of the Arthur/Arcola area, the single most identifiable group, is represented by textiles, leather work, and blacksmithing. From outside this area of Illinois is a selection of pieces from the I. Roberta Bell Doll Collection of Famous Black Americans, donated to the collection by Grace Markwell Meier of Paris. Mrs. Bell taught in the Chicago schools for many years, and hand-crafted her dolls depicting

famous African Americans to help teach to her students the history and contributions of African Americans. The canes from the Burl Ives Memorabilia Collection also suggest a breadth of ethnic diversity, although the cultural origins of some of the canes are not presently known.

EVENTS

DOCENT MEETING

-- May 3, 10am- noon

The final meeting of the year begins with a workshop, *WorkIng with Shape*, presented by Donna Meeks, the Tarble's Curator of Education. The workshop will be followed by exhibition tours of *Shape: Selections from the Permanent Collection*, in the Brainard Gallery, and the *Eleventh International Children's Exhibition* in the Main Galleries. This meeting is open to the public, and persons interested in becoming a Tarble Docent are particularly encouraged to attend.

AUDITIONS: CHARLESTON AREA ARTS COUNCIL HONORS RECITAL

-- May 8, 9am-4pm, Brainard Gallery

Students from Kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to showcase their talents, with some of the students eligible to win scholarships to EIU's Music camps, through this competition sponsored by the Charleston Area Arts Council.

WORKSHOP: FUNDRAISING -- STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

-- May 15, 9am-4pm, Classroom

This workshop is part of a series entitled *The Art of Management for Local Arts Agencies* sponsored by the Illinois Arts Council and the Assembly of Illinois Community Arts Organizations, with partial funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. Topics include: identifying funding sources, understanding the fundraising process, motivations for giving, developing a fundraising plan, preparing fundraising documents, and practical applications. Admission is free, but advance registration is requested. Although targeted at arts organizations, representatives of other area non-profit cultural groups are also invited. Contact the Tarble office for additional information.

PERFORMANCE & RECEPTION: CHARLESTON AREA ARTS COUNCIL HONORS RECITAL

-- May 15, 7:30pm

The best of young performers residing in Coles County are presented in this annual competitive showcase sponsored by the Charleston Area Arts Council. A presentation to the scholarship winners and a reception to honor the young performers will be held immediately after the recital.

RECEPTION & AWARDS PRESENTATION: INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EXHIBITION

-- May 16, 1:30 - 3:30pm

The awards presentation will begin at 2:00pm. Dr. William Hill, Superintendent of Community Unit #1 Public Schools, will present the opening address.

RECITAL: THE STUDENTS OF JULIE MILLER

-- May 23, 2-4pm

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE: TARBLE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

-- May 31



NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

-- March 16 -- April 26

Supporting Patron

Ruth & Charles Dow

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FROM THE CURATOR

Recently, I enjoyed the unique opportunity of attending the *Champaign Arts Education Roundtable* at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday, April 15th. The all-day meeting was one of four scheduled throughout the State of Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to both exchange, generate, and document ideas for collaborative arts education programming between institutions. As such, the meeting involved university educators, museum curators, and public school educators in a lively discussion. The Roundtable Project was funded by the Illinois Arts Council and presented by the Illinois Alliance for Arts Education.

It would seem that April is my month to take the show on the road. I had the pleasure of visiting Arcola Elementary on April 19, and presenting the final brooch workshop of the semester to 24 very interested fourth grade art students. The students not only designed and created their own brooch, but also worked cooperatively with one another in the studio. I would like to thank Becky Spoon, art teacher at the school, for an enjoyable morning.

The weekend children and family classes and workshops concluded Sunday, April 25th with the last Family Workshop Sunday of the year. The workshop involved thirteen parents and children in a folk art balancing toy workshop. I would like to thank Assistant Professor Jeff Boshart, of Eastern's Art Department, for taking time out of his busy schedule to design and present this workshop.

-- Donna M. Meeks

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Tarble Arts Center has recently been awarded a grant of \$2,500 from the Illinois Humanities Council in support of the project to create a traveling photo-documentary exhibition on the Amish of Arthur, Illinois. The exhibition will document the cultural heritage of the old order Amish community of Arthur, Illinois, based on the photographs, field work, and interpretation of photographer and folklorist Sherry Pardee. The Amish of Arthur are often seen as anachronistic strangers living in the midst of central Illinois' farm land. The intent of the exhibition is to produce a culturally sensitive exhibit that will help to dispel some of the myths and mystique that surround the Amish, as well as to present them as a vital cultural group within Illinois through accurate folkloristic documentation. In the exhibition Amish life will be organized by various categories as presented through the photographs. Each set of photographs will be accompanied by interpretative, and, when appropriate, quotes or pieces of scripture to provide background and context. Respecting the Amish disdain

of being photographed, their culture will instead be documented through scenes of their homes, farms, fields, and possessions. The exhibition is to be made of free-standing panels, designed so it can be easily transported to and installed in county courthouses, bank lobbies, schools, libraries, and other public meeting areas of smaller communities which do not have museum or gallery facilities. Initially the exhibit will tour the communities of Arthur, Arcola, Teutopolis, Mattoon, Oakland, Greenup, Casey, and Marshall. The exhibition will be shown at the Tarble in conjunction with CELEBRATION: A Festival of the Arts '94. After touring this region the Amish photo-documentary exhibition will be made available to museums throughout the state. Application has been made to the Ethnic and Folk Arts program of the Illinois Arts Council for grant support to develop an interpretative video-documentary and teacher's guide on the Amish of Arthur, which could be used in conjunction with the exhibition or as a separate entity.

It is intended that this will be the first in a series of low-security educational exhibitions to be developed and circulated by the Tarble Arts Center. Other exhibitions being developed include: selections from the collection of international children's art acquired through the annual International Children's Exhibition; original printmaking and its processes, illustrated with prints made by area school children through previous Enrichment Programs; and posters on theatre and the performing arts from the Leland Watson Poster Collection. My thanks and appreciation to Sherry Pardee for her work and advice in putting the pilot Amish exhibition together, to this year's graduate Assistant Karen Boshart for her assistance with the Amish exhibition and ground work for developing subsequent traveling exhibitions, to the Illinois Arts and Humanities Councils for providing funding support, and to Fine Arts Dean Emeritus Vaughn Jaenike for providing the germ of the idea. This outreach program will very literally fulfill benefactor Newton Tarble's charge to "take the arts to the people." Finally, this and the Tarble's many other outreach programs would not be possible without the financial support provided by the Tarble Arts Center membership through their membership contributions.

-- *Michael Watts*



UPCOMING FOR JUNE/JULY

Summer of Excellence Classes -- June 7 - 17:

Artmaking with Famous Artists

Moving with Music

Art & Stories

-- June 12/19/26:

Quick Piecing "Sunshine & Shadow"

-- June 21 - July 1:

Native American Art

Musical Keyboarding

Preschoolers' Journey

Art to Wear

-- July 6 - 15:

Storytime Express

Multicultural Activities for Preschoolers'

Beautiful Basketry

Recital & Annual Meeting: EIU Annuitants -- June 11, 8:30am-12:30pm

EIU Art Camp Orientation -- July 11, 6:30pm

EIU Art Camp Closing Reception & Exhibition -- July 16, Noon-5pm

EIU Music Camp Concert: Strings Chamber Music -- July 17, 10am

EIU Music Camp Concert: Junior String Orchestra -- July 24, 10am



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Tarble Arts Center

College of Fine Arts

Charleston, Illinois 61920-3099

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Donna Meeks, Curator of Education

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Acting Dean, College of Fine Arts

Volunteer Coordinators:

Maggie Hollowell and Corrine Joyner, Docent

Education Program

Victoria Woollen-Danner, Gift Shop

Barbara Watts, Sales/Rental Gallery

General Information:

Open Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday 10am - 4pm, Sunday 1 - 4pm; Closed Mondays and holidays. Admission is free unless otherwise noted. For information or to schedule a group tour, telephone 217/581-ARTS(2787). The Tarble Arts Center is located on South Ninth Street at Cleveland Avenue, on the Eastern Illinois University campus. The Tarble Arts Center is partially supported by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and by Tarble Arts Center membership contributions.